

Appl. No. : Unknown
Filed : Herewith

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter, comprising:
a proximal outer tube section, having a proximal end and a distal end;
an intermediate tube extending through the proximal tube section and beyond the distal end;
a central core, extending through the intermediate tube; and
a cap attached to the central core;
a tubular sheath having an open distal end and a proximal end, the open distal end of the tubular sheath having a first diameter and the proximal end of the tubular sheath having a second diameter that is smaller than the first diameter, the proximal end being coupled to the intermediate tube, the tubular sheath defining a proximal cavity for receiving a proximal end of a prosthesis; and
a plug positioned in the proximal cavity, the plug defining a distal surface that faces the proximal end of the prosthesis.
~~wherein the central core is rotationally linked to the intermediate tube.~~
2. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 1, wherein the intermediate tube is rotationally linked to the outer tube.
3. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 1, wherein the cap is axially movable between a first position in which it contacts the outer tube and a second position in which it is spaced distally apart from the outer tube.
4. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 4, wherein the central core comprises a flexible tube.
5. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 4, wherein the tube comprises a polymeric braid.

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6. (Original) An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 5, wherein the tube further comprises a reinforcing element which overlaps the point of contact between the cap and the outer tube.

7. (Original) An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 6, wherein the reinforcing element comprises a tubular element carried by the flexible tube.

8. (Currently Amended) An endoluminal graft deployment catheter, comprising:

an elongate flexible body, having a proximal end and a distal end;

a proximal outer tube section, having a proximal end and a distal end;

a distal outer tube section, having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~the proximal outer tube section being rotationally linked to the distal outer tube section; and~~

an intermediate tube extending through the proximal outer sheath tube section and beyond the distal end; the intermediate tube having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion having a larger diameter than the second portion to form a distally facing surface;

a central core, extending through the proximal and distal outer tube sections and the intermediate tube;

a tubular sheath having an open distal end and a proximal end, the open distal end of the tubular sheath having a first diameter and the proximal end of the tubular sheath having a second diameter that is smaller than the first diameter, the proximal end of the tubular sheath being coupled to the second portion of the intermediate tube, the tubular sheath defining a proximal cavity for receiving a proximal end of a prosthesis; and

a spacer for filling at least partially a space between the distally facing surface of the intermediate tube and an outer surface of the tubular sheath

wherein the proximal and distal tube sections define a prosthesis cavity therein for carrying a the prosthesis; and axial separation of the proximal tube section from the distal tube section opens the cavity to release the prosthesis.

9. (Original) An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 8, wherein each of the proximal tube section and the distal tube section is rotationally linked to the central core.

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10. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 8, wherein at least one of the proximal tube section and the distal tube section is axially movable between a first position in which the cavity is closed and a second position in which the cavity is open.

11. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 10, comprising a junction between the proximal tube section and the distal tube section when the cavity is closed, and further comprising a reinforcing element spanning the junction.

12. **(Original)** An endoluminal graft deployment catheter as in Claim 11, wherein the reinforcing element comprises a tube.

13-14. **(Canceled)**